

REMARKS

I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0169803 to Sampath. Applicants traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites, among other things, an input interface for inputting parameter information instructing a description change part in a target document with respect to the template document and a variable converting unit for defining the character train variable and the data variable with a tag on the basis of the input parameter information. At least these features are not taught or suggested by Sampath.

According to an exemplary embodiment of the invention, an input interface accepts parameters which are used by a variable converting unit to generate the definition of the character train variable and the definition of a path of the data variable with a tag. For example, as depicted in Figure 2, a bit selection parameter and an analog input channel selection parameter have been input to the input interface. The bit selection parameter corresponds to a first variable Var-1 and the analog input channel selection parameter corresponds to a second variable Var-P1, which is a tagged value used to define a file (*see* Figure 3). Figure 7 depicts a synthesized document wherein the values have been replaced with their definitions. Enabling the input of parameters allows a document to be created flexibly in accordance with specification changes and allows not only simple character train data, but also data with a tag such as a document, table, or figure having a more complicated structure to be manipulated.

Sampath appears to disclose a method of using a predefined document specification to translate the predefined specification into a structured document template. However, Sampath

does not teach or suggest an input interface that accepts parameter information used to generate definitions for character train variables and data variables with tags that are located in the template. While the predefined structures may include placeholders for content and attributes, Sampath does not disclose using input parameters to fill in these placeholders. Rather, it appears that the placeholders are already associated with a particular database entry. Thus, the system disclosed by Sampath does not enable a document to be generated dynamically in accordance with specification changes.

Accordingly, as each and every limitation must be disclosed or suggested by the cited prior art references in order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (see, M.P.E.P. § 2143.03), and Sampath does not do so, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, is patentable over these Sampath.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1. Under Federal Circuit guidelines, a dependent claim is nonobvious if the independent claim upon which it depends is allowable because all the limitations of the independent claim are contained in the dependent claims, *Hartness International Inc. v. Simplimatic Engineering Co.*, 819 F.2d at 1100, 1108 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Accordingly, as claim 1 is patentable for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all dependent claims are also in condition for allowance.

II. Conclusion

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Application No.: 10/648,262

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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